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DOE completes environmental assessment on INL National Security Test Range

The U.S. Department of Energy has issued the final environmental assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact on the establishment of a National Security Test Range at Idaho National Laboratory.

The test range will be used for tests that include detonation of explosives to evaluate explosive protection and countermeasures including armor, security devices and barriers. It also will be used to evaluate ways to protect people and facilities from threats such as rocket-propelled grenades, improvised explosive devices and vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices.

"Results from these tests will provide information to better protect people and our nation's buildings and infrastructure," said Elizabeth Sellers, manager of the DOE's Idaho Operations Office. "This will benefit national, state, tribal and local governments, and the private sector."

A public comment period on the draft environmental assessment concluded on Jan. 12, 2007. The environmental assessment is available by going to the DOE-Idaho Web site at www.id.doe.gov and clicking on "Laboratory Programs." Hard copies of the document are also available by contacting Don Michaelson at 1955 Fremont Ave., mailstop 1170, Idaho Falls, Idaho, 83415, or by e-mail at Michaels@id.doe.gov.

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